In the claims:

Please amend claims 21, 22, 23, 36, 37, 45, and 49 to read as follows. In the claims, material to be deleted is marked with a strikethrough (~~strikethrough~~) and material to be inserted is underlined. Please add claims 59 - 62. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 – 20 cancelled

21. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a DNA comprising a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:8, and SEQ ID NO:13;

(b) DNA comprising a polynucleotide that encodes ~~a fragment of~~ a polypeptide ~~selected from the group consisting SEQ ID NO:8 and SEQ ID NO:13~~ that is at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO:8, wherein the ~~fragment~~ polypeptide is active in IKBα or p38 MAP kinase phosphorylation or the ~~fragment~~ polypeptide is active in cell surface expression of ICAM-1;

(c) DNA comprising a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide ~~selected from~~ that is at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO:13, wherein the polypeptide is active in IKBα or p38 MAP kinase phosphorylation or the polypeptide is active in cell surface expression of ICAM-1; and

(d) DNA comprising a polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, and SEQ ID NO:12.

22. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a DNA that encodes a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:8;

(b) DNA that encodes a fragment of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:8, wherein the fragment is active in IKBα or p38 MAP kinase phosphorylation or the fragment is active in cell surface expression of ICAM-1 and further wherein the fragment has an amino terminus selected from the group consisting of amino acids 1 through 5, and a carboxy terminus selected from the group consisting of amino acids 154 through 158, of SEQ ID NO:8, and

(c) the DNA of SEQ ID NO:7.

23. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

(a) DNA that encodes a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:13;

(b) DNA that encodes a fragment of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:13, wherein the fragment is active in IKBα or p38 MAP kinase phosphorylation or the fragment is active in cell surface expression of ICAM-1 and further wherein the fragment has an amino terminus selected from the group consisting of amino acids 1 through 5, and a carboxy terminus selected from the group consisting of amino acids 154 through 158, of SEQ ID NO:13, and

(c) the DNA of SEQ ID NO:12.

24. (previously presented) An isolated DNA that encodes a polypeptide comprising the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:8.

25. (previously presented) An isolated DNA that encodes a polypeptide comprising the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:13.

26. (previously presented) An expression vector comprising the DNA of claim 21.

27. (previously presented) An expression vector comprising a DNA that encodes a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:8.

28. (previously presented) An expression vector comprising a DNA that encodes a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:13.

29. (previously presented) A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 26.

30. (previously presented) A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 27.

31. (previously presented) A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 28.

32. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide encoded by the DNA of claim 21.

33. Cancelled

34. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising amino acids 1-158 of SEQ ID NO:8.

35. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising amino acids 1-158 of SEQ ID NO:13.

36. (currently amended) ~~A soluble fragment of the polypeptide~~ An isolated polypeptide comprising amino acids 5-154 of SEQ ID NO:8, wherein the ~~soluble fragment~~ polypeptide is active in IKBα or p38 MAP kinase phosphorylation or is active in cell surface expression of ICAM-1.

37. (currently amended) ~~A soluble fragment of the polypeptide~~ An isolated polypeptide comprising amino acids 5-154 of SEQ ID NO:13, wherein the ~~soluble fragment~~ polypeptide is active in IKBα or p38 MAP kinase phosphorylation or is active in cell surface expression of ICAM-1.

38. (previously presented) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising culturing the host cell of claim 29 under conditions that promote expression of the polypeptide.

39. (previously presented) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising culturing the host cell of claim 30 under conditions that promote expression of the polypeptide.

40 — 43 cancelled.

44. (previously presented) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising culturing the host cell of claim 31 under conditions that promote expression of the polypeptide.

45. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide that encodes ~~a fragment of~~ a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:8 and SEQ ID NO:13, wherein the polypeptide has an amino terminus selected from the group consisting of amino acids 1 through 5, and a carboxy terminus selected from the group consisting of amino acids 154 through 158, of SEQ ID NO:8 or SEQ ID NO:13, respectively, and further wherein the polypeptide ~~the fragment~~ is active in IKBα or p38 MAP kinase phosphorylation or the fragment is active in cell surface expression of ICAM-1~~, and further wherein the fragment lacks from 1-5 terminal amino acids from either N terminal or C terminal or both~~.

46. (previously presented) An expression vector comprising the DNA of claim 45.

47. (previously presented) A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 46.

48. (previously presented) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising culturing the host cell of claim 47 under conditions that promote expression of the polypeptide.

49. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:8 and SEQ ID NO:13, wherein the polypeptide has an amino terminus selected from the group consisting of amino acids 1 through 5, and a carboxy terminus selected from the group consisting of amino acids 154 through 158, of SEQ ID NO:8 or SEQ ID NO:13, respectively.

50-58 Cancelled

59. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 21, comprising a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

(a) DNA that encodes a polypeptide that is at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO:8 and that comprises alterations to the amino acid sequences selected from the group consisting of inactivated N-glycosylation site(s), inactivated protease processing site(s), conservative amino acid substitution(s), and combinations thereof;

(b) DNA that encodes a fragment of the polypeptide of (a), wherein the fragment has an amino terminus selected from the group consisting of amino acids 1 through 5, and a carboxy terminus selected from the group consisting of amino acids 154 through 158, of SEQ ID NO:8;

(c) DNA that encodes a polypeptide that is at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO:13 and that comprises alterations to the amino acid sequences selected from the group consisting of inactivated N-glycosylation site(s), inactivated protease processing site(s), conservative amino acid substitution(s), and combinations thereof; and

(d) DNA that encodes a fragment of the polypeptide of (a), wherein the fragment has an amino terminus selected from the group consisting of amino acids 1

through 5, and a carboxy terminus selected from the group consisting of amino acids 154 through 158, of SEQ ID NO:13;

and further wherein the polypeptide is active in IKBα or p38 MAP kinase phosphorylation or the polypeptide is active in cell surface expression of ICAM-1.

60. (new) An expression vector comprising the DNA of claim 59.

61. (new) A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 60.

62. (new) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising culturing the host cell of claim 61 under conditions that promote expression of the polypeptide.